

Business Enterprise Trust for leading this profoundly significant effort.

Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:57 p.m. by satellite from Room 459 of the Old Executive Office Building to the Business Enterprise Trust meeting in New York City. In his remarks, he referred to journalist Diane Sawyer and television producer Norman Lear.

### **Statement on Reorganization of the Department of Agriculture**

*December 6, 1994*

Today Secretary Espy announced that the Department of Agriculture is closing over 1,200 field offices across the country. I commend Secretary Espy for his leadership and outstanding efforts to make Government function better and more productively.

By creating one-stop-shopping field centers that consolidate a multitude of services under one roof, we are showing a true commitment to streamline Government and to make it work better and cost less.

When fully implemented, the changes will save about 2.5 million hours annually of farmers' time by slashing the paperwork burden and reducing other bureaucratic requirements. This streamlining, coupled with the overall reorganization of the Department, will save taxpayers \$3.6 billion over 5 years and serve rural Americans with the common sense they deserve. The effort to restructure the USDA has been implemented with bipartisan support and is an example of how Democrats and Republicans can work together.

I am proud of the USDA reorganization because it shows that with a lot of hard work, Government can be changed to do a much better job with fewer dollars. We are making a USDA that makes sense for the customer and the taxpayer. Secretary Espy should be commended for implementing these changes in a sensible and businesslike way.

### **Statement on Webster L. Hubbell**

*December 6, 1994*

Webb Hubbell is an old friend, and Hillary and I were saddened by today's events. We

should also remember that Webb is a man who has given much to his family, his community, and his country. The matter is in the hands of the court, and I don't think it would be appropriate to say anything more at this time.

### **Appointment of Members of the President's Export Council**

*December 6, 1994*

The President today announced his intention to appoint 25 members to the President's Export Council, including C. Michael Armstrong as Chair and Elizabeth J. Coleman as Vice-Chair of the Council.

"I am proud to announce the appointment of such a talented and experienced group of individuals to the Export Council," the President said. "I look forward to their recommendations as we move ahead to reduce the barriers of trade, open worldwide markets to our goods and services, and create jobs for American workers."

NOTE: Appointments of the following members were announced: J. Joseph Adorjan; C. Michael Armstrong; John J. Barry; Carol Bartz; George Becker; Edgar Bronfman, Jr.; Dean Buntrock; John F. Carlson; Elizabeth J. Coleman; Susan Corrales-Diaz; Lawrence Ellison; Ellen R. Gordon; Steven J. Green; Ray R. Irani; Michael H. Jordan; Thomas Labrecque; Leslie McCraw; John F. McDonnell; John Jay Moores; Dennis J. Picard; Safi Qureshy; Frank Savage; Kathryn Turner; Thomas Urban; and C.J. Wang.

### **Remarks at the Democratic Leadership Council Gala**

*December 6, 1994*

**The President.** Thank you very much. Thank you, Congressman McCurdy. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, Congressman McCurdy. Hillary and I are delighted to be here. I was so glad when Michael Steinhart and Al From and Will Marshall came up on the stage. I thought we were occupying the right wing all by ourselves here tonight. [Laughter] I want to—it'll get funnier as you think about it. [Laughter] I want to thank everybody on this stage, my wonderful and longtime friend Lindy Boggs, who had me